



R. Kent
12/18/03

Docket No.: 820601-1020 #20

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)
Focke, H., et al.)
Serial No.: 09/724,016) Group Art Unit: 3721
Filed: November 28, 2000) Examiner: Eugene Kim
For: Process and Apparatus for) Confirmation No. 7235
Producing Hinge-Lid Boxes)
For Cigarettes)

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RESPONSE AND ELECTION

BOX: FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Atlanta, Georgia 30308-2216

Sir:

The Office Action from Patent Examiner Eugene Kim mailed on October 3, 2003, has been received and reviewed. Applicant provides the following remarks in response.

REMARKS

By the Office Action mailed on October 3, 2003, the Examiner states Claims 10-14, 29-31, 36-39 and 45-51 are pending in the application. The Examiner has stated the claims comprise three (3) separate groups of inventions and has required an election for prosecution.

Group I contains Claims 10-14 and 29-31, drawn to a process for producing a dimensionally stable pack, classified in class 493, subclass 151; Group II contains Claims 36-39, drawn to a process for folding and sealing an outer wrapper, classified in class